



Federal Geographic Data Committee Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes January, 2003

The Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) Marine and Coastal Spatial Data subcommittee met during the Coastal GeoTools Conference in Charleston, SC on January 6, 2003. An agenda is included at the end of the minutes. In addition, a list of the items that were distributed during the meeting is included at the end of the minutes. Individuals who wish to request copies of these items should contact David Stein at Dave.Stein@noaa.gov.

Highlights

Anne Miglarese, chair of the subcommittee, called the meeting to order. The last meeting was held on July 24, 2002 at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office of Coast Survey, in Silver Spring, MD. Anne proceeded to give an overview of the subcommittee, its recent accomplishments, and where it fits within the FGDC framework. Below is the status of the action items from last meeting:

- Develop 2002 work plan. Status: complete and available on our Web site.
- Continue to move subcommittee-sponsored standards through the FGDC process. Status: in progress.

A priority work item handout was distributed during the meeting. Subcommittee members were urged to take some time to think about what they'd like to see the subcommittee engaged in during 2003. Participants were also encouraged to review the membership list and submit names to David Stein.

Agenda Items

1. **NatureServe Coastal Habitat Classification Standards, Chris Madden, NatureServe.** Chris Madden briefed the group on the status and content of NatureServe's Habitat Classification Standards. The purpose of classification hierarchy is to identify and map critical habitats for biodiversity conservation, and develop guidelines for Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). The standards are built on earlier NOAA classification efforts and incorporates biogeography from the Center for Environmental Cooperation and elements from many other classification efforts including Cowardin, NOAA/OLO, Dethier, EUNIS, OSPAR, and others. This briefing can be downloaded from the subcommittee's Web site (www.csc.noaa.gov/mcsd/) under "Presentations."
2. **North Carolina Flood Mapping Project, Zsolt Nagy, NC Center for Geographic Information Analysis. Zsolt Nagy, NC Center for Geographic Information Analysis.** Zsolt gave an overview of the various components of North Carolina's Flood Mapping Project, including data acquisition, the information technology infrastructure, and value added products. The objectives of the Flood Mapping Project include: better topo and elevation data (base data, topography, flood hazard data); new and improved flood insurance maps; Internet dissemination of maps and data; and a real-time flood warning system. The North Carolina project can serve as template for other states and nations. Additional information and presentations can be found at www.ncfloodmaps.com
3. **The Bathy/Topo Project Progress Report. Bruce Parker, NOAA Office of Coast Survey.** The Bathy/Topo project stemmed from problems with charting and mapping U.S. coastal zone. The question was how to cost effectively map 95,000 miles of coastline that results in a seamless transition from topography to bathymetry. The project began with a pilot in Tampa Bay. The steps involved were to develop a Vdatum tool, create Bathy/Topo DEMs, begin working on consistently defined shorelines, and create bathy/topo website and CD product, which would serve as the first step of national bathy/topo database. The Vdatum tool has also been used in Southeast Louisiana, Delaware Bay, New York/New Jersey Bight and Central California. A demo CD was distributed at the meeting. To request this CD, contact Roger.Johnson@noaa.gov. This briefing can be downloaded from the subcommittee's Web site under "Presentations."
4. **Member Activity/Subcommittee Theme Updates.**
 - **Geospatial One-Stop. Anne Miglarese and David Stein, NOAA CSC.** A one-page handout on Geospatial One-Stop was distributed at the meeting. The Geospatial One-Stop is a part of the new Office of Management and Budget E-Government initiative to improve the effectiveness, efficiency, and customer service throughout the federal government. The strategy, adopted by the President's Management Council (PMC) in October 2001, implements the "Expanding Electronic Government" reform outlined in the President's Management Agenda.

Geospatial One-Stop will revolutionize e-government by providing a geographic component for use in all Internet based e-government activities across local, state, tribal and federal government. The implementation of the Geospatial One-Stop will provide standards and models for the geospatial framework data content; provide an interactive index to geospatial data holdings at the federal and non-federal levels; initiate interaction between federal, state, and local agencies about existing and planned spatial data collections; and provide online access to geospatial data. The Marine and Coastal Spatial Data subcommittee's role will be to assist in the coordination of the initiative and ensure that the data sets under our purview (bathymetry, shoreline, and marine boundaries) are adequately addressed in the process.

- **FGDC Marine Boundary Working Group (MBWG). Cindy Fowler, NOAA CSC.** Cindy updated the Subcommittee on the activities of the MBWG. Members of the Marine Boundary Working Group (MBWG) will be working with the Cadastral subcommittee on the cadastral data content standard. There was also a joint meeting held on January 9 between the MBWG and the Cadastral Subcommittee. The MBWG Web site can be found at <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/mbwg/>.
- **Marine Boundary Update. Meredith Westington, NOAA OCS.** Meredith gave an update on the status of the Coast Survey's maritime boundaries project. The EEZ is now available in an ArcView shapefile format at <http://chartmaker.ncd.noaa.gov/csdl/eez.htm>.
- **Shoreline Update. Jon Bailey, NGS and Mike Aslaksen, NGS.** Jon and Mike gave an update on the current status of the U.S. shoreline and on the Shoreline Data Content Standard. Progress on the standard has been slow. NGS is in the process of hiring a contractor to take the lead on the standard. Questions about these topics can be directed to Jon.Bailey@noaa.gov.
- **Bathymetry Update. Robby Wilson, NOAA OCS.** Robby gave an update on how bathymetry is being addressed through the Elevation theme for Geospatial One-Stop. The Elevation Data Content Standard is in progress. Robby is the bathymetry representative on the standards development team. Questions about this can be directed to Robby at Robert.Wilson@noaa.gov.
- **Hydrographic Data Accuracy Standard and Article 76. Jerry Mills, NOAA OCS.** Jerry Mills gave an update on the status of the *Geospatial Positioning Accuracy Standard, Part 5: Standard for Hydrographic Surveys and Nautical Charts*. This standard was delayed last spring due to some last minute concerns over language referring to metadata. The standard states that metadata should be developed using FGDC standards. A reviewer pointed out that all federally developed data must be documented using the FGDC metadata standard. The Coast Survey has addressed this issue and the standard can now move forward through the FGDC process.

Jerry also gave an overview of Article 76. Article 76 of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea defines the legal continental shelf and outlines methods to establish its outer limits where the shelf extends beyond the 200-mile limit. There is a good chance that the U.S. will sign the United Nations Law of the Sea Convention.

- **Electronic Navigational Charts (ENCs).** Tony Niles, Army COE, sent a one pager on the Army Corps' ENC program. The handout was distributed at the meeting. Questions about the Corps' ENC program can be directed to Tony Niles at tniles@tec.army.mil.

Action Items

1. Submit priority work items to David Stein at Dave.Stein@noaa.gov.
2. Update membership list.
3. Continue to participate in the Geospatial One-Stop project.

Items Distributed at Meeting

1. Agenda
2. Meeting Minutes
3. Geospatial One-Stop one pager
4. Army Corps of Engineers ENC one pager
5. Bathy/Topo information
6. FGDC Winter Newsletter

Attendees

Name	Agency	email
Anne Hale Miglarese	NOAA CSC	Anne.Migliarese@noaa.gov
David Stein	NOAA CSC	Dave.Stein@noaa.gov
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Jon Bailey	NOAA NGS	Jon.Bailey@noaa.gov
Jerry Mills	NOAA Coast Survey	Jerry.Mills@noaa.gov
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Roger Johnson	NOAA Coast Survey	Roger.Johnson@noaa.gov

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Robby Wilson	NOAA Coast Survey	Robert.Wilson@noaa.gov
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Robert E. Johnson	MMS MBB	Robert.E.Johnson@mms.gov
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Roger Gauthier	USACE Detroit	Gauthier@glc.org
Harve Kaufmann	The Environmental Trust	harvekaufmann@cox.net

Agenda

**Federal Geographic Data Committee
Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee Meeting
Monday, January 6, 2003
1:00pm -4:00pm
Charleston Place Hotel, Charleston S.C.**

1:00 Welcome and introductions - Anne Miglarese

- Agenda review
- Subcommittee overview
- Meeting highlights from July 24
- Recap of 2002 Subcommittee and FGDC activities
- Membership status
- Priority work items

1:30 NatureServe's Habitat Classification Standards - Chris Madden, NatureServe

2:00 North Carolina's Flood Mapping Project - Zsolt Nagy, North Carolina Center for Geographic Information Analysis

2:30 Break

2:45 Topo/Bathy Project - Bruce Parker, NOAA Office of Coast Survey

3:15 Short updates on subcommittee themes

- Geospatial One-Stop - Leslie Wollack, FGDC
- Shoreline update - Jon Bailey, NOAA NGS
- Bathymetry update - Robby Wilson, NOAA OCS
- Marine Boundary Working Group - Cindy Fowler, NOAA CSC
- Marine Boundary update - Lee Thormahlen, MMS/Meredith Westington, OCS
- Article 76 and Hydrographic Data Accuracy Standard - Jerry Mills, OCS
- Electronic Navigational Charts (ENCs) - TBD

4:00 Action items and next meeting

4:15 Meeting adjourned

Meeting Minutes Submitted by

David Stein, NOAA Coastal Services Center
FGDC Marine and Coastal Spatial Data Subcommittee Executive Secretary